

Kwarteng won't stand at election

KWASI Kwarteng has announced he will be standing down at the general election. The ex-Chancellor's

announcement came amid increasing nervousness in PM Rishi Sunak's ranks about Labour's huge

poll lead.
Mr Kwarteng posted
on Twitter yesterday:
"I informed my
Association Chair of my decision not to

my decision not to stand at the election. "It has been an honour to serve the residents of Spelthorne since 2010, and I shall continue to do so for the remainder of my time in Parliament." Kwarteng had an

time in Parliament."
Kwarteng had an abortive stint as Chancellor under Liz Truss, with unfunded tax cuts in his mini-Budget triggering panic on the markets and sending the Pound into freefall.
It has been blamed for spiralling interest payments for Brits.

BP reports profit drop

ENERGY giant BP has reported a sharp drop in profits after oil prices fell

last year.
Profits were £11bn in 2023, down from a record

£22bn the previous year. Energy firms reported huge gains when oil and gas prices soared in the aftermath of Russia's invasion of Ukraine over supply fears.

While households' energy bills have fallen since 2022, they still

remain at a high level.

The results are the first released by BP since the company announced Murray Auchincloss as its new chief executive.



If you thought a missing monkey was exotic... FLYING DINOSAUR FOUND IN SCOT



A UNIQUE species of flying reptile – or pterosaur – that lived 168 million years ago has been discovered on the Isle of Skye.

Its wings, shoulders, legs, and backbone were found in a rock on a beach, but the fossil's skull was missing. Scientists were surprised to find a

Scientists were surprised to find a pterosaur from this period off Scotland's west coast - they were thought to mostly have lived in China.

The creature - called Ceoptera - is the second pterosaur found on Skye.

Its name comes from the Scottish Gaelic word 'cheo', meaning mist, and is a reference to the Gaelic name of the Isle

of Syke – 'Eilean a' Cheò' or Isle of Mist. Fossils from this era, called the Middle

Jurassic, are extremely rare, said Dr Liz Martin-Silverstone at the University of

Martin-Silverstone at the University of Bristol, who used a CT scanner to make a 3D digital model of the fossil.

"Finding anything from that time period that's more than just a single bone is really exciting," she added.

The creature probably had a wing-span

of around 1-1.5m.
Prof Steve Brusatte, who was not involved in the research, said it was unique to Scotland, and that the research proves a type of pterosaur between the primitive and advanced stages of evolution existed. He said: "This is the time before birds,

when pterosaurs ruled the sky. This shows pterosaurs were common in Scotland."



Starmer: I'm desperate for investment

SIR Keir Starmer says £28bn is "desperately needed" for Labour's mission to achieve clean power by 2030, amid confusion over the

amid confusion over the party's commitment to the investment pledge. The Labour leader (above) insisted he had been "unwavering" in relation to the party's green energy plans and denied it was "scaling back" policies as this year's general election looms.

The party originally announced £28bn a year would be invested year would be invested in green projects if it wins power, but has since said the figure will instead be a target for the second half of

a first parliament. Sir Keir said: "We are going to need investment, that's where the £28bn comes in. Investment that is desperately needed for that mission. "You can only understand the

investment argument by understanding that we want to have clean power by 2030. We need to borrow to

invest to do that.
"That's a principle I
believe in and I'm
absolutely happy to go
out and defend."

Floods kill 3 in California

AT least three people have been killed by falling trees as a powerful storm hits California – bringing flooding, mudslides, and

power outages.
Fire officials have responded to more than 130 flooding incidents and conducted several rescues since the

deluge began.
Forecasters say heavy
rain with life-threatening flash flooding will continue. The record-breaking

rainfall has led the governor to declare a state of emergency in eight counties

The storm is due to an "atmospheric river" effect - a phenomenon in which water evaporates into the air and is carried along by the wind, forming long currents that flow in the sky like rivers flow on land.

PM gives update on monarch's health William to take SON: William <u>on more royal duties</u> **Harry makes dash** from California home SON: Harry

THE King's cancer was 'caught early", PM Rishi Sunak has said.

The Prime Minister said he was left "shocked and sad" when he was told about the King's cancer diagnosis.

"All our thoughts are with him and his family," he told BBC Radio 5 Live. "Thankfully, this has been caught early."

or the country will continue as normal and he was in "regular the Willow by the King"

normal and he was in "regular contact with the King".

The monarch, 75, will have to postpone or rearrange any forthcoming public engagements following the diagnosis, the Palace said yesterday.

"His Majesty would like to

By COLIN HURST

news@sundaysport.co.uk

apologise to all those who may be disappointed or may be disappointed of inconvenienced as a consequence a statement released on behalf

a statement released on behalf of the King said.

The King remains "wholly positive" about his treatment for cancer and "looks forward to returning to full public duty as soon as possible", Buckingham Palace added.

The King has begun a schedule of regular treatments and is said to be receiving expert medical care from a specialist team.

specialist team.
He travelled from Sandringham
in Norfolk to London on Monday to start treatment as an outpatient, and spent the

SUN

evening at home in London, most likely in Clarence House. His diagnosis, announced on Monday, means it is unlikely he will attend the Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey on March 11.

The Queen will continue to attend to a full programme of public duties in the meantime. The King called both his sons, William and Harry, as well as his siblings the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Duke of York and the Duke of Edinburgh, to give them the news before it was publicly announced.

announced.

The Duke of Sussex was last night travelling to the UK from his home in the US to visit his father.

Other members of the Royal

family, including the Prince of Wales, may take on some extra duties on behalf of the King

during his treatment.

However, it is understood these duties will not relate to the King's constitutional role, and the monarch will continue to receive and review important documents in red boxes used by the monarch and Government

ministers.
It is understood the King will It is understood the king will continue to have weekly audiences with the PM while undergoing treatment, though these may be held remotely, should medics advise him to reduce in-person contact.

He is also expected to remain available for speciage of the

available for meetings of the Privy Council, which usually meets once a month.



THERE'S a chance of snow showers first thing in parts of western Scotland, but these should turn to rain later in the morning as things warm up a touch. Dry but overcast for most of the day across the UK. 0 Temperatures of 7C in London, and in Cardiff, 5C in Manchester, and in Belfast, and 3C in Edinburgh. Thursday sees snow THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK 00

SAT

and rain - heavy at times across England, while
 Scotland and Northern

FRI

Ireland stay dry.
Temperatures of 10C in London, 2C in Cardiff, 3C in Manchester, and in Belfast, and 4C in Edinburgh. OUTLOOK: Damp.



LOVE Island: All Stars contestant Georgia Steel has been subjected to "vile threats and nasty messages" on social media in recent days, a

media in recent days, a statement on her official Instagram says.

The 25-year-old (left), who featured on the fourth series of the hit dating show in 2018, appeared to be confused over her feelings for fellow Islanders Toby Aromolaran, Callum

Jones, and Tom Clare in

recent episodes of the ITV2 dating show. Georgia found herself under fire for her behaviour after several clips showing her connections with the different contestants were played, sparking huge criticism online

A statement posted to her Instagram stories said: "Love Island is an amazing TV show and we have loved watching this

series as much as

series as much as everybody else. "The last few episodes have been difficult for us to watch, but what's far worse is the hate Georgia

worse is the hate Georgia is receiving online.

"It is a TV show and everyone has their opinions – just please remember it's not real life!

"Sending vile threats and nasty messages and comments is totally unacceptable. Trolling is not OK."





February 7, 2024 **Sport** 3

DOJA Cat suffered a wardrobe malfunction as she hit the red carpet at the Grammys.

The Streets hitmaker, 28, wore a very racy sheer nude corset-style dress by designer Dilara Findikoglu for music's biggest night, when the top of her dress slipped down — By MILLIE McCALL

By MILLIE McCALL

dress slipped down – revealing a peek of outer bull's-eye. The singer didn't appear to notice the nip slip, and continued posing for the snappas, as she showed off the jaw-dropping design. The see-through dress also showed off a

also showed off a number of temporary tattoos throughout her body.

<u>Tatts</u>

One of the tatts was the name of the dress's designer written across her forehead in large

letters.
Doja was nominated for three awards at the event held at the

news@sundaysport.co.uk

rews@sundaysport.co.uk
Crypto.com Arena in
Los Angeles.
Her single Attention
has been nominated in
Best Rap Song and
Best Melodic Rap
Performance, while her
song Paint the Town Red
earned a nomination
for Best Pop Solo
Performance.
Both tracks come
from Scarlet, Doja's
fourth studio album,
which was released in
September 2023.
An onlooker said: "I've
not heard a word of her
music but I sure would
like to see her piss.
"Bet she gushes like a
shre horse."

Brits braced for white hell

A BAND of heavy snow could cause disruption later this week, with as much as eight inches possible in higher areas – where there is a risk of power cuts, travel chaos and highland sheep being cut off from the rest of society. Temperatures will drop as the week goes on, with a yellow snow warning issued which covers much of Wales as well as northern and central England, the Met Office confirmed.

The 250-mile "wall" of snow is a proceed to hit the

Office confirmed.

The 250-mile "wall" of snow is expected to hit the country just a week after temperatures of nearly double the early February average of 7C (45F) were recorded.



Jezza: desert shoot really

JEREMY Clarkson and his The Grand Tour pals Richard Hammond and James May went for days without peeing as they filmed their penultimate series in the extreme heat of the Sahara Desert.

Presenters Jeremy, 63 (above), Richard, 54, and James, 61, travelled to the wild and remote country of Mauritania in West Africa for The Grand Tour: Sand Job, which is set for release on Amazon Prime Video on February 16.

Their challenge was to do the iconic Paris to Dakar race in second hand sports cars.
Jezza said: "You

Dakar race in second hand sports cars.
Jezza said: "You don't get filthy in a desert. It's a strange thing, but sand is incredibly clean.
"We drank litres and litres of water, and we didn't pee. I don't know where it was going!
"Hammond said after three or four days, 'Im going to have a pee' and I thought, 'I haven't had a pee yet!"

MICHELLE KEEGAN



Brit ship 'hit by Houthis'

A BRITISH-owned cargo vessel has been attacked in the Red Sea, according to the UK Maritime Trade Operations.
The attack on the ship

happened west of Hodeida in Yemen just after midnight on Tuesday.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack but suspicions have fallen on Iranian-backed

Houthi rebels in Yemen. The UKMTO said the ship's master was "aware of a small craft" nearby before a projectile was fired at the ship.



THE identity of the next 007 is still up in the air but the race is on to be the next Bond girl.

the next Bond girl.

Michelle Keegan, Jodie
Comer and Saoirse Ronan
are all said to be on the
shortlist to play the female
lead in the next Bond movie.

Halle Berry, Gemma Arterton
and Ursula Andress have all
previously appeared as Bond
girls in other 007 flicks.

Fool Me Once star Michelle,
36. has been given the seal of

Fool Me Once star Micnelle, 36, has been given the seal of approval by gambling experts following the former Corrie cracker's success in Netflix's new hit drama.

By CASSIE WHITE

news@sundaysport.co.uk

Jodie, 30, is known for the hit BBC spy thriller *Killing Eve*, while Irish actress Saoirse, 29, received an Oscar nomination for the movie *Atonement*.

Betting expert James Leyfield, from Gambling.com, explained: "Jodie Comer is the 6/4 favourite on specials betting sites to be the next female lead in a Bond movie.

Villain

"She could be an ideal Bond girl, but could be just as effective as the main villain in it, too.

"The British actress cut her

teeth in the likes of medical dramas Casualty and Holby City, as well as school drama Waterloo Road, before getting her big break as Villanelle."

Bookies predictions have also

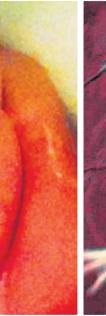
Bookies predictions have also been rife around who could play 007 himself, after Daniel Craig departed the role in 2021.

Aaron Taylor-Johnson, who has recently appeared to be bulking up for a role in Kraven The Hunter, is said to have done a screen test last year.

An insider said: "Aaron went for a screen test to be the next Bond in September and the producers and Barbara Broccoli loved him.

loved him.
"He is now one of the strong







RUSTY SHAFT BUGGERS NAVY FLA



THE Royal Navy's flagship had to miss crucial NATO exercises – because of a RUSTY SHAFT! HMS Queen Elizabeth was due to set sail from Portsmouth to help

set sail from Portsmouth to help lated the western military alliance's biggest exercise since the Cold War. But the £3.5billion, 65,000-ton aircraft carrier was pulled out at the 11th hour after rust was found on the affected propeller shaft—leaving it at risk of it breaking down at sea.

MPs described the development as "excruciatingly embarrassing".

"excruciatingly embarrassing" The Queen Elizabeth's sister

carrier, HMS Prince of Wales, broke down near the Isle of Wight after setting sail for America just 18 months ago – also due to a faulty propeller shaft.

It will now take HMS Queen Elizabeth's place on the NATO exercise, but it remains unclear when it will set sail, and it may miss some of the exercise.

The blow means a British aircraft carrier may not be deployed to the Red Sea to help US efforts to counter attacks on shipping by Houthi rebels.

The possibility that one might

replace a US aircraft carrier was

replace a US aircraft carrier was discussed during a recent visit to Washington by Defence Secretary Grant Shapps.

It comes after two Royal Navy warships collided in Bahrain last month because one had been rewired incorrectly.

Minehunter HMS Chiddingfold reversed into HMS Bangor, which was lying at port, ripping a hole in a cabin above the waterline.

A report by the Commons defence committee concluded that Britain's over-stretched Armed Forces may be unable to fight an all-out war. be unable to fight an all-out war.



Swift Super Bowl theory 'nonsense

SUPER Bowl conspiracy theories involving Taylor Swift are "nonsense", NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says.

Music superstar Swift (above) is dating Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, whose team will compete in their fourth Super Bowl in five years on Sunday.

Bowl in five years on Sunday. Right-wing critics say their relationship is part of a plot to rig the NFL's championship game and help get US President Joe Biden re-elected

os Fresident Joe Biden
"Te-elected.
"Tm not that good a
scripter," said Goodell.
"The idea that this is
within a script, this is
pre-planned, is just
nonsense. It's frankly not even worth talking about."
The presidential

The presidential election is scheduled for November 5, with Biden set to be the Democratic candidate. Taylor, who has previously endorsed the Democrats, has been seen at 12 Chiefs games, but it is not yet known if she will attend Super Bowl 58 in Las Vegas as he she is performing in Tokyo on Saturday.

Goodell said of the 34-year-old: "She's a remarkable performer."

remarkable performer.

Lacklustre sales hit **UK** shops

RETAILERS suffered a "lacklustre" January as bad weather and cost of living discouraged shoppers from opening their wallets after Christmas, according to

new research.

Total retail sales across
the UK increased by only 1.2% year-on-year in January – down sharply from growth of 4.2% during the same period last year, figures from the British Retail Consortium (BRC) and KPMG said.

(BRC) and KPMG said.
Separate figures from
Barclays also found yearon-year consumer card
spending grew by 3.1%
over the same month.
It blamed the recent
cold weather – including
from Storm Isha and
Storm Jocelyn – for
putting off shoppers from
visiting high streets, and
claimed Britons were instead "embracing nights in" by watching TV hits such as *The Traitors*.

The BRC said January

sales helped boost spending in the first two weeks but added the trend was "not sustained".

Chief executive Helen

Dickinson said: "Larger purchases, such as furniture, household appliances, and electricals, remained



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Joe blasts: Trump is a sick f**k!

DOTTY Joe Biden has a potty mouth, it has been revealed.
The cussing Commander-in-Chief allegedly called Israeli PM Netanyahu a "bad f**king guy" and former US president Donald Trump a "sick f* "k".
Biden's alleged insults come as the US is dragged further into war and conflict in the Middle East.
Politics website Politics's Jonathan Martin wrote a column explaining how Biden, 81 (above), is losing millions of votes among young liberals for the United States' support of Israel amid the ongoing conflict in Gaza with Hamas.
Martin revealed that unnamed sources told him Biden is "deeply suspicious" of Mr Netanyahu.
The White House vehemently denied the statements published in the column, saying: "The president did not say that, nor would he," adding Biden and Netanyahu have "a decades-long relationship that is respectful in public and in private".
According to Martin, a House Democrat told him it was "unanimous this Israel-Gaza war needed to end now".

Driver killed cyclists after shitting pants

A WOMAN said she ran

A WOMAN said she ran over and killed two cyclists after shitting herself at the wheel. Julie Ann Budge, 48, was arrested in 2022 after striking 48-year-old Matthew Bullard and his brother Adam, 49, who were riding in the Spring Tour of St. George cycle race in Utah.

Both men died of their injuries.

After the incident, Budge told police that she had "various medical issues" and had begun uncontrollably defecating herself without warning, causing her to swerve and hit the brothers.

Budge, of Hurricane, Utah, also failed sobriety tests at the scene, telling police she had been taking fentanyl through an IV drip since being admitted to hospital the day before.

Following the trial, the jury found Budge guilty on

Following the trial, the jury found Budge guilty on two counts of negligent homicide, one count of reckless driving and another count of failure to remain in a single lane of traffic.

She was found not guilty on two counts of leaving the scene of an accident.















Cops horror find after tip-off HELD: Heather Stines KILLED: Gelzer

WOMAN was taken into custody after a convicted nonce's dismembered body was discovered in her flat during a wellness check.

Cops received an anonymous tip claiming Kawsheen Gelzer's body

was being stored inside Heather Stines's fridge. Officers went to Stines's residence on Nostrand Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, and reportedly noticed a refrigerator with tape on it.

Arguing

One of the officers reportedly asked about its contents, but Stines, 45, allegedly began arguing with the

cops.
She was ultimately removed from

By LARRY ZIMMERMAN

news@sundaysport.co.uk

Police opened the refrigerator and

Police opened the refrigerator and found Gelzer's head and other body parts inside, stored in black bin bags.

Stines said her husband killed Gelzer, 39, in September during a fight over drugs and his body had been in the refrigerator for many months.

Killing

She allegedly argued she did not see the killing take place.
Stines's husband is currently locked up in Virginia.
Gelzer's cause of death has not been announced yet.
He was a registered sex offender after being convicted in 2005 of deviate sexual intercourse.

Squaddie held over porn pics

A COMPUTER whizz squaddie has been arrested after allegedly showing photographs of male genitals to customers in a shop.

An alert was issued after an incident at a discount store in Grovetown, Georgia,

According to the authorities, Miguel Zahid Rodriguez, 27, was arrested and has since been charged with two counts of distributing obscene materials.

According to the Grovetown Police Department, Rodriguez is currently being held at Columbia County Detention Centre.

Rodriguez is an active duty American Army soldier assigned to U.S. Army Cyber Command based at Fort Eisenhower.









'Sex traffic' Gwynnie pal to face trial

A PAL of Gwyneth Paltrow is to go on trial for running a sex cult. Nicole Daedone, 56 – founder of "sexual wellness" empire OneTaste – and its former CEO Rachel Cherwitz, 43, are to go on trial next year, accused of running a cult which forced workers into sex and

accused of running a cult which forced workers into sex and followers into debt.

The duo appeared in federal court in Brooklyn, trailed by a glam-squad entourage and represented by £1,000-an-hour attorneys, to be told their criminal trial on charges of running a forced labour conspiracy will take place in 2025 and is likely to take around a month.

They could face years in prison if found guilty of the charges, and are also being sued in federal court in Manhattan by a former worker who accuses them of trafficking her for sex to gain

them of trafficking her for sex to gain OneTaste customers. It is a fall from grace for Daedone, who was once given a place on the TedX Talks stage chatting about the female orgasm and who hune out with

nemate orgasm and who hung out with Hollywood A-lister Gwynnie (above). Paltrow's Goop website also talked up OneTaste which raked in £9.5million a year.

Social media is killing sex for UK teens

THE number of British THE number of British teenagers having their first sexual experience by the age of 15 has gone down by up to a third in the past decade.

Researchers found Britain is also one of only two countries – along with Sweden – where

with Sweden – where girls are now more sexually active than boys. One theory is that young people are dating less and have fewer romantic relationships and face-to-face encounters due to the increasing amount of time they spend on social media and their smartphones

The study, published in the Journal of Sex Research, examined data on 180,000 teens in 33 countries, including the UK, over a 10-year

It found that in 25 countries, the number of 15-year-olds who reported they have had sex has

they have had sex has significantly decreased, and increased in none. The study also found that 23.6% of British girls reported having had sex by the age of 15, compared with 22.8% of boys.







A WOMAN barged into a petrol station while naked and drunk, threatening to kill staff with a potato peeler - then fingered her minge in front of bewildered onlookers.

Celia Barrett, 35, was arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated assault, disorderly intoxication, criminal mischief, exposure of sexual organs and trespassing after the incident that

trespassing after the incident that unfolded at the RaceTrac petrol station in St. Petersburg, Florida. Barrett, who was previously banned from the patrol station back in November, returned after taking six shots of liquor, she told police.

Naked at the time of this incident, the unblack in waying a "fabrus edged".

Naked at the time of this incident, she walked in waving a "sharp-edged peeler-corer" and threatening staff with it, police said.

She did not request money from the cashier, but allegedly began to bang the peeler on the counter as she yelled obscenities at the cashier. cashier.

The general manager then came over, and she allegedly threatened him with the peeler, too.

By LESLIE GROVES news@sundaysport.co.uk

Barrett continued to wave the peeler in the air, acting as if she was going to stab the general manager, according to the arrest affidavit.

She also said she was "going to kill him," the affidavit said, but lowered the weapon and walked away.

Vagina

Barrett continued to "cause a disturbance" by allegedly knocking down a display of about 50 Red Bull drinks and destroying a carton of

drinks and destroying a carton of cigarettes.

When cops arrived, she allegedly began to "inappropriately touch herself "by inserting three fingers into her vagina".

Barrett remains in custody in Pinellas County.



Nose pickers are 'at risk of Alzheimer's'

PICKING your nose can increase the risk of you getting Alzheimer's.

Researchers at the Western Sydney University found that chronic nose-picking introduces germs into the sensitive nasal cavity that cause inflammation in the brain, which has been linked to the onset of Alzheimer's disease.
Boffins still aren't sure

what causes Alzheimer's but in the brains of patients they've observed a buildup of a protein called tau, which is associated with the

body's immune response.
When immune cells are triggered by invasions too frequently, researchers believe stress on the body - inflammation - can lead to various diseases.

INK DRIVE BEA **BUST-ED AFTER SMASH**

A BUSTY woman wearing leather lingerie has been charged with drink driving following a collision with an e-bike cyclist.

collision with an e-bike cyclist.
Emergency services were called after a Subaru
sedan hit an e-bike in Sydney, Australia.
Paramedics treated the cyclist at the scene
before he was rushed to St Vincent's Hospital in
a serious condition.
The 27-year-old unnamed female driver (left)
allegedly returned a positive result in a roadside

POLIC

breath test and was taken to Surry Hills Police Station where

Police Station where she underwent a secondary breath test. She was later taken to hospital to undergo mandatory blood and urine testing.

The woman has since been charged with a mid-range drink driving offence and will face. offence and will face the Downing Centre Local Court on March 14.





Thigh was the limit for 'picky' Hef

PLAYBOY boss Hugh
Hefner constantly
criticised his wife for
having big thighs and
small boobs.

Crystal Hefner, the
third and final wife of
Hefs, said the old goat
regular complained
about her weight and
bust size.

The 37-year-old
model (born Crystal
Harris) revealed the
mag mogul, who died
in 2017 aged 91,
wanted her to "stay
skinny" throughout
their relationship and
would regularly make
snide comments about
their relationship and
would regularly make
snide comments about
the size of her thighs if
he thought she was
above his ideal weight.

She also claimed that
the publisher wanted
her to have "big, fake
boobs" as part of the
unreal figure that he
expected from lovers.
Crystal, who married
Hefner in 2012, told
how he would tap her
on her thighs and tell
her: "Oh, looks like
someone needs to
tone up."

PHARAOH JOB

THE government in Egypt has started what has been dubbed "the project of the century" - repointing and restoring the Menkaure Pyramid at Giza.







SIENNA MILLER

















Tourists label Big Ben as 'just big clock'

BIG Ben has got a big raspberry from tourists visiting London. The beloved clock

tower (above) has more than 32,000 reviews on TripAdvisor and, while it has accrued more than 19,000 five-star

ratings, the attraction has a legion of haters. Some 764 people have taken to the travel website to give Big Ben a "terrible" one-star review and to give their constructive

criticism. The most recent

The most recent sceptic, Leo N, visited in September 2023, but spent two months carefully crafting his thoughts in November. The review reads: "Just a big clock really init... nothing special really, could just go my nan's house and see a clock except Big Ben's 10x bigger (where did Big Ben get its name by the way?)"
Viewing the 19th century building as merely a timekeeping tool was a running tool was a running the property was not seen the see for the seed of the seed

tool was a running theme for unsatisfied visitors, with Trojan P advising readers in June 2023 to "just look at your wristwatch" instead.

instead.
Elsewhere, Daniel B
boasted his Apple
Watch was better than
Big Ben as it can take
his pulse, which the
Palace of Westminster
landmark failed at.

Neighbour finds nuke in garage!

A NUCLEAR missile was

A NUCLEAR missile was found in a garage after the death of its owner. The discovery of the military grade rocket sparked an urgent visit from a local police bomb squad, which quickly determined the remnants squad, which quickly
determined the remnants
of the missile were inert
and not a danger to the
surrounding area.
A neighbour of the late
homeowner told cops the
deceased man initially
bought the defunct

equipment at an estate sale in Bellevue, Washington state.

The police were alerted about the rocket when the National Museum of the US Air Force in Ohio contacted them when

contacted them when the neighbour offered to donate it, cops said.

The police officials determined the hunk of metal was a Douglas AIR-2 Genie, which is an unguided air-to-air rocket that is meant to carry a 1.5 kiloton W25 warhead dating back to the Cold dating back to the Cold War. There was no warhead on the rocket when it was found.

"Bomb squad members confirmed it contained no rocket fuel," police said.

Teacher sent boys pics of her minge WEDDING BELLE: Cassidy Klaus was arrested three months after tying the knot



By BOB TAYLOR news@sundaysport.co.uk

A NEWLYWED teacher has pleaded guilty

to sucking off three teenage lads.
Cassidy Kraus, 24, pleaded guilty to one count of third-degree sexual abuse, two counts of lascivious acts with a child and three counts of dissemination and exhibition of obscene

sending obscene material to three minors over Snapchat. According to the

According to the criminal complaint, Kraus "knowingly disseminated obscene material" to one victim between January 2022 and May 2022 and the complete of the complete of the complete of the complete of the criminal complet to two other victims between January 2023 and June 2023. Kraus then took the

Kraus then took the abuse a step further, "fondling or touching" a 13-year-old in May 2022 and "touching her genitals to any part of the body of the child".

The third-degree sexual abuse charge stemmed from her "performing sex acts" on a 14-year-old between January 17 and 31, 2023.

As part of her duties as a teacher, Kraus, 24, was a mandatory reporter of child abuse,

the complaint noted.

According to a statement from the school district, a report was made in August of



FACING JAIL: Kraus

the same year alleging that Kraus had sent sexually-charged pics to students.

sexually-charged pies to students.

She was put on leave amid an investigation in conjunction with local police.

Kraus tendered her resignation before she was sacked.

Three days later, the IKM-Manning School Board approved her resignation during a special meeting.

She now faces a maximum of 33 years in prison and a sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 11.











<u>We lay out a free</u> buffet...no wonder scumbags tuck in

MAYBE I'm old-fashioned, but I always presumed that if you broke the law you got bollocked

A horrifically hungover dawn awakening in a police station cell after that one-too-many saw you get chucked through a restaurant window

window.

Caught driving while you're so pissed you can't even read the speedometer, never mind the traffic lights (been there).

Nicked red-handed in a stolen car.

Or cheating on the taxman, even though you know damn right that he's the one ripping you off.

I'm certainly no angel, but it's crime and punishment, innit?

Except, it seems, only for some of

Except, it seems, only for some of

us.

I'm in a Muslim country right now and the first thing we do before we step out of the front door is check what

step out of the front door is check what the missus is wearing.

Zanzibar is tolerant by many Muslim countries' standards, but that doesn't mean you can take the piss.

Walk up off the beach in a G-string bikini because you can't be arsed putting a towel around you won't just upset the locals.

Handwringing

It'll upset you, too, when you get thrown into a very, very hot slammer to learn the lesson of your ways. Likewise, there are utter knobheads who visit Indonesia with stuffed dolls

who visit indonesia with stuffed dolls full of smack or coke even though, on one simple online search, it warns them quite clearly that they risk facing a firing squad.

And then do teary videos to the

And then do teary videos to the handwringing BBC saying they didn't really mean to, because someone nasty made them.
Tough shit. The sun's up. Bang. Problem solved.
In the United States last week, they executed a bloke who himself helped take nart in a murder many vears ago.

executed a bloke who himself helped take part in a murder many years ago. It caused outrage because despite using a new "humane" method of state-sponsored murder, he lay there shuddering and jerking for 22 minutes in agony before his heart gave up. Which sounds dreadful, but mainly for those watching. Him? I couldn't care less. He knew very well when he committed the crime in the first place that he lived and committed the crime that he lived and committed the crime in a state with the death penalty. How many more signs do they need?



Well, it turns out the only sign any of these people need is one that directs them to the doors of the United

Kingdom.
At the time of writing there's a certain someone still on the loose after an alleged chemical attack and the also alleged brutal, public assault of

a child.

It turns out the alleged perp had arrived in this country illegally, on the back of a lorry, and then applied for asylum. That was turned down, so he applied again. And the second application was turned down, too.

While no doubt being groomed by charities and so-called human rights' lawyers for a third attempt, he was then convicted not once but twice of sex offences.

then convicted not once but twice of sex offences.

But no worries, because then he "converted" to Christianity – even though he still regularly bought half a halal sheep carcass and was described as a devout Muslim at his local mosque

local mosque. So his third application for asylum

So his third application for asylum went in — nonce convictions notwithstanding — and bingo! He's in!

Now we witness the unedifying sight of people running round asking how on earth this was allowed to happen. Yet everyone knows exactly why it happened.

It happened, purely and simply, because we're the softest of touches and the world and its wife back home, and all of their relatives, and maybe a few neighbours, and perhaps their pets, and their pets' pets, also know it only too well.

But believe it not, I don't blame them.

We put out the free buffet, and they

devour all the courses.

The only mugs are us for allowing it in the first place.

EMAIL ME: justin@ sundaysport.co.uk FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER:



Warning as coke hippos go on attack

DESCENDANTS of DESCENDANTS of illegal hippos imported into Colombia by drug kingpin Pablo Escobar in the 1980s have now started attacking people. The hippopotami uses, which spread from the cocaine baron's private

zoo into nearby rivers where their numbers then flourished, have no natural predators and have been declared an invasive species which threaten the local ecosystem. Hacienda Nápoles

became a tourist attraction after Escobar's death in 1993. Most of the animals live freely in rivers and reproduce without control, leading Colombia's Ministry of Environment to start a

Environment to start a sterilizing programme back in November.
One local said:
"They're very, very dangerous. The hippos have started to attack people!"
Others branded the species – of which

the species – of which 169 roam around unsupervised in some local rivers – as being "unpredictable and angressive", saying the best course of action if you come across one is to try and hide.

Susana Muhamad. the Environmental Minister, said: "We are minister, said: We are in a race against time in terms of permanent environmental and ecosystem impacts."

Police close brothel over sex yelping

COPS have shut down a massage parlour after sex yelps from the rub-a-tug shop disturbed a Bible

study class next door.
The probe revolved around Ocean Spa in Kearny near San Diego, California.

Over the years, locals have complained about the enterprise, with San Diego Police receiving reports of people having sex in vehicles in the car park, sex noises loud enough to disrupt neighbours, and online ads promoting prostitution.

Among those forced to sit through the sordid scenes were youngsters in a Bible study that for years was set nextdoor, before it moved out in 2022 due to the alleged activity, cops said.
At least four arrests

have been made.
"The owners of Ocean Spa have been spa nave oeen
masquerading as a
legitimate business for
far too long," said City
Attorney Mara Elliott in
a statement, after
compiling enough evidence to sway a judge to dish out an order. "Ocean Spa is a sex

shop - not a massage parlour... it has no place in our community or anywhere else."







Dear Ashleigh,

MY girlfriend always wears stockings and suspenders, but her best feature is probably her 34GG breasts. She gives the best titt-wank a man can get.

When I met her mum, I could tell where she got her

fantastic norks from.

fantastic norks from.

After a meal at their house recently, the dad pissed off down the boozer and we settled down to watch some telly. But all the time I was staring at the mum's knockers, imagining getting a tit-wank from her.

My girl went to bed and I stayed to watch the end of the movie. But as soon as she'd left, I made a move on her mum. She responded by unbuttoning her blouse and gripping my cock between her giant hooters. I was well away and just about to cream on her norks when her hubby walked in.

I was chased out of the house and now my girlfriend won't talk to me. What should I do?

JD, Merseyside

JD, Merseyside

Ashleigh says... CHALK it up to experience.

Dear Ashleigh,

MY girlfriend loves watching me having sex with other women – usually her mates – and she has a string of peachy pals that any red-blooded male would love to get his hands on.

Take the other week, for example. She told me she would be inviting Natasha round for dinner on the Saturday night and I should be ready for some fun.

Our guest arrived at 7pm and, after a delicious supper, I was soon conkers-deep in Natasha's lovely clunge.

My missus always watches for a bit and then joins in. This time was no different. She climbed onto the bed and was soon licking her mate's fanny and sucking my cock. It was brilliant, but I'm thinking of marrying her and wonder if our relationship is strong enough to survive because she now wants to go with other men.

What should I do?

BK, Lancashire

BK, Lancashire

Ashleigh says... BE careful. It could end in disaster.

Shoe shop shag show

Dear Ashleigh,

I WORK in a shoe shop and one day a week the manager leaves me in charge.

Recently I was about to close at the end of the day when a smart woman came in. She was about 35, tall

in. She was about 35, tall and slim.

She asked me about a pair of shoes on display in the window, so I invited her to take a seat while I went to fetch them.

They were a pair of red, strappy sandals and when I got back she'd already slipped off her shoes to reveal her pretty toes set off with scarlet nail polish.

She wasn't waaring

She wasn't wearing tights or stockings and as I lifted her foot to try on

the sandal I couldn't help but admire her long, tanned

legs.
But I hesitated slightly

But I hesitated slightly and she caught me looking at them.

She smiled and slowly parted her thighs, to reveal she wasn't wearing panties!

At her suggestion, I locked up the shop while she slipped off her skirt, bent over a chair and let me hang her till she souealed.

bent over a char and ret file bang her till she squealed. Now she calls in every week when the boss is away. I love it, of course, but I'm worried I might get sacked if the boss finds out.

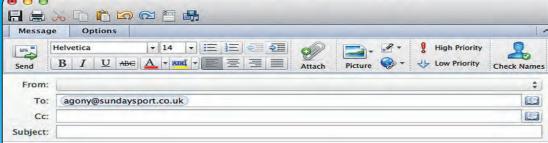
What do you think? FJ, Bucks

Ashleigh says...

TAKE her home and try her on for size there.

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WELCOME to the World famous Sport Agony page! No other newspaper's agony aunts can offer the level of advice – or experience – than our own Agony Angels! This week ASHLEIGH GEE has been reading through your letters. And here's her advice for you...



Secret threesomes are hole lot of joy for

Dear Ashleigh,

I'M 32, married and hide a saucy secret from my hubby – I enjoy threesomes with two men I work with.

Our sessions are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when my hubby thinks

I'm at the bingo.
Instead, I go round to my work pal's house where the two of them are ready

nouse where the two of them are ready and waiting.

The sex is always out of this world, but the other week was the best one yet.

I went upstairs and stripped off before diving under the duvet. After a couple of minutes they came in with a bottle of wine and I undressed each one in turn.

Sucking

I enjoy being licked out and, though one of my lovers is pretty good at it, the other is sensational.

And he soon got going on my love-bud with his expert tongue. As I lay sucking on one guy's manhood,

As I lay sucking on one guy's manhood, his pal was like a man possessed as he lapped away at my aching pussy.

After I reached a shuddering climax I got on all fours for one of them to enter me from behind for some frantic doggystyle humping while I sucked on the other one's hard dick.

One of the lusty lads thrust into me as I grabbed the other's cock and furiously wanked him off until he spilled his hot cream over my face and tits.

But the one who was inside me was

dripping off his naked body onto my arse as he built up an incredible rhythm. Several thrusts later I was squealing

with delight as I reached yet another

white delight as I retended yet theories shuddering orgasm.

We lay in each other's arms stroking each other for a while to get our breath

And after about 20 minutes one of the chaps climbed on top of me and slipped his prick into me for some missionarystyle action.

style action.

The other lay playing with himself until he, too, was rock-hard again.

Then the three of us managed to position ourselves so that I could take the second guy in my bumhole at the same time as his pal was still shagging my dripping wet pussy.

The feeling of having both guys inside

me – in different holes – filled me with rapture and I had the most amazing, long and intense orgasm ever.
But last weekend my husband came back from the pub and hit me with some departed this process.

devastating news.

devastating news.

He said that one of his pals had told him I'd been cheating on him with the two men from my workplace.

I feel deeply ashamed that I've taken things so far and that I've upset my

Ashleigh says...

SEE if you can make things up with your hubby. Cook him something nice, then suck

MILF landlady gave me bed 'n' breakfast treat!

DearAshleigh,

ME and my mate work away from home as contractors and recently shagged the MILF contractors and shagged the MILF landlady at our digs.

She was a tasty 40-something, slim and blonde with cracking tits

and an arse to die for.

Me and my mate went to the pub for a few ales when she walked in with

when she walked in with her knockers almost spilling out of her top.

She came over and leant in to me, whispering in my ear that she wanted to f**k me, as she grabbed my bollocks and remarked how well hung I was.

So I quickly finished my pint, left my mate in the pub to carry on boozing and went back to our digs with the randy landlady.

Back at the B&B, I soon had her on the couch in the

had her on the couch in the shared lounge, with her thong off and her soaking wet bean rubbing on my

nose.
I quickly made her orgasm with my finger blasting technique before

over and slam her hard from behind.

About half-an-hour

from behind.

About half-an-hour later my mate walked in on us – still banging away in the sitting room.

The old bird grabbed my wet cock and told me

to carry on while she beckoned my pal over to join us! Before long we were

spit-roasting her as she screamed in ecstasy and

screamed in ecstasy and begged for more. We didn't last long as she was such a good shag and her face ended up covered, like a bukkake scene.
She gave us discount on

the room and a free breakfast, but me and my mate have birds back mate have birds back home and feel guilty about home and ichome and ichoming her.
Please help!
SH, Stockport

Ashleigh says...

WHAT happens "on tour" should stay "on tour". So remind your mate to keep his mouth shut!

Dear Ashleigh,

I AM a 20-vear-old secretary in a legal firm and my 35-year-old boss has taken a shine to me.

He has always been extremely nice to me and sometimes I have got embarrassed when he praised me in front of other colleagues.

But the other month he

came clean about the reasons why and told me he fancied me rotten.

And he promised me a promotion if I slept with

So I did – because I really need the extra money.

The first time he had me

was over his desk. He took off my thong, licked me out and then f**ked me...

We now have sex up to five times a week and I have good reason to enjoy

I have been promoted twice – and have a

company car.

He is very attractive with an athletic body and colleagues tell me he is divorced and unattached.

The problem is that I prefer guvs my own age and I have a steady boyfriend.
Should I continue to

sleep with him?

BS, Birmingham

Ashleigh says...

IF you are comfortable with ne situation, then carry on you feel guilty about your fella, then stop.

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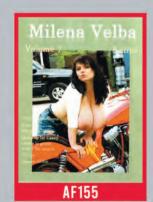














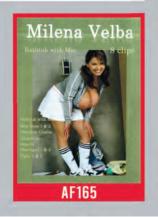






















































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Thursday @ 12.00pm

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34 Sport February 7, 2024

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- ACROSS
 1. Starts (6)
 7. Odd (8)
 8. Assert (4)
 10. Small finch (6)
 11. Erase, expunge (6)
 14. Lyric poem (3)
 16. Sum (5)
 17. Sound quality (4)
 19. Military trainee (5)
 21. Shelter (5)
 22. Warning device (5)
 23. Legend (4)
 26. Landed estate (5)
 28. Foot digit (3)
 29. Awaken (6)
 30. Pancake mix (6)
 31. Opposed to, informally (4)
 32. Short pause for rest (8)
 33. Sprinkle with flour, etc. (6)

DOWN

- DOWN
 1. Bay lynx (6)
 2. Overrun, infest (6)
 3. Active and brisk (4)
 4. Hush (7)
 5. Bathroom fitting (5)
 6. Inhuman (5)
 8. Soon (4)
 9. Before (3)
 12. Auction item (3)
 13. Unspoken (5)
 15. Bird (5)
 18. Academy Award (5)
 19. Vehicle (3)
 20. Lair (3)
 21. Covered with hair (7)
 22. Former French coin (3)
 23. Dapple (6)
 24. Abominable snowman (4)
 25. Obstacle (6)
 26. Venemous snake (5)
 27. Group of nine (5)
 28. Shade of brown (3)
 30. Poet (4)

- 30. Poet (4)

1. TAYLOR Swift received 1. IAYLOR SWIT received a backlash for being "disrespectful" after apparently ignoring which star while accepting her award for Album of the

- Year at the Grammys?
 a) Kylie Minogue
 b) Rita Ora
 c) Shania Twain
 d) Celine Dion

2. THE Royal Navy was 2. THE Royal Navy was branded a laughing stock after which flagship £3bn aircraft carrier was pulled out of a top NATO drill because rust was found on its propeller shaft? a) HMS Queen Elizabeth b) HMS Queen Mary c) HMS Queen Mother d) HMS Queen Bee

3. WHICH telly chef has admitted he "isn't going to last much longer" after having open heart surgery last year? a) James Martin b) Rick Stein

- c) Tom Kerridge d) Gordon Ramsay

4. WHICH judge missed two *Britain's Got Talent* auditions due to sudden

- headache attacks?

 a) Bruno Tonioli
 b) Alesha Dixon
 c) Simon Cowell
 d) Amanda Holden
- 5. WHICH rap star was taken away in handcuffs by LAPD officers after he

b) Camilla c) Charles

7. THE boss of Red Bull's F1 team, Christian Horner, faces allegations of "incredibly controlling behaviour" by a female colleague, which he has denied. Which former Spice Girl is he married

- to?
 a) Ginger
 b) Baby
 c) Scary
 d) Sporty

2. Invade; 3. Spry; 4. Quieten; 5. Bidet; 4. Cuels B. Anon; 9. Ere; 1.2. Lot; 13. Tacit; 1.5. Raven; 20. Den; 21. Hisute; 22. Sou; 23. Mottle; 24. Yeli; 25. Hudle; 26. Mamba; 27. Nong 27. Yeli; 26. Hudle; 28. Tan; 30. Bard. CROSSWORD
ACROSS: 1. Begins:
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14. Ode; 14. Delete;
14. Ode; 15. Total;
17. Tone; 19. Cadet;
23. Myth; 26. Manor;
28. Toe; 29. Arouse;
30. Batter; 31. Arit;
30. Batter; 31. Arit;
32. Breather; 33. Dredge

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						4	9	

won three awards at the Grammys? a) Killer Ken

- b) Killer Mike c) Killer Shark d) Killer Vanilla

6. WHICH member of the Royal family has been diagnosed with cancer? a) Andrew

- d) Kate

9. WHICH Love Island: All Stars contestant has been subjected to "vile threats and nasty messages" on social media?

8. NEXT season's FA Cup could feature what

- media?
 a) Georgia Steel
 b) Joanna Chimonides
 c) Sophie Piper
 d) Georgia Harrison
- 10. WHICH energy giant has reported a sharp drop in profits? a) Shell b) Centrica c) BP d) Iberdrola











Grans Desperate For Sex Turn To Filthy Sexting!

UK Grannies say older is better for Text & Sex



With all this lockdown malarky us mature ladies haven't been out and about getting the disgusting amounts of sex we need to keep us happy! So we're turning to **SEXTING!** I never realised just how much filthy fun you can have until pictures of big stiff cocks started to pop up on my phone when I'm at the checkout in Tesco's! So I've got some of my filthy and frustrated friends

together, we've taken lots of filthy pics and we are ready and waiting to swap pics and messages with horny fellas who appreciate an older woman. Kimberlev xxx



66 Gabby: I'm bored with wanking on my own. Let's swap some dirty pics. "!



66 Vikki: I'm a sex addict. I divorced 5 years ago so I could shag my way around Britain!



66 Kimberley: I'm a sucker for a big hard knob! Send me a picture of yours for me to wank over.



66 Edna: Slip your cock between my gorgeous boobs and enjoy your best ever tit wank!



66 Sheila: I'm horny as fuck. Tell me vour wildest fantasies and we'll cum



66 Jill: I'm divorced, insatiable and in need of sex. Just call me the gangbang gran. "



66 Madam: You know there's no pleasure without pain! So, let me



66 Vi Lovett: The older I get, the kinkier I get! Let me dress in PVC and whip you into shape!



66 Emilia: I adore anal sex! Lick my ring and slide your hard cock in my dark hole! Mmmmm! **!!**



66 June: I'm the insatiable step mum you've heard so much about! Let's swap some dirty pics!



66 Justina: I've recently discovered the joys of bukkaki! I want you to cover me in spunk!



66 Sade: The older I've got, the hornier I get. Well what else am I gonna do with these tits!



66 Connie: It's lots of sex that keeps me young. I like to keep ALL my holes in working order!

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED



HOPEFUL: Adrian Lam

Lam wants his Leopards to take leap forwards

RUGBY LEAGUE

ADRIAN Lam is determined to prove Leigh's stunning 2023 season was no fluke. The promoted Leopards

The promoted Leopards not only charged up the Super League table on their top-flight return but won the Challenge Cup for the first time in 52 years.

The challenge now for their dynamic former Wigan coach I am is to

Wigan coach Lam is to prove it was no flash in the pan, as he fears many

pan, as he fears many people suspect. "I think people underestimated us last year," said Lam, who was named coach of the year after following up cup success with a fifth-placed finish.

"I think people probably still doubt that we can do it and potentially feel that we may have got lucky, so we've still got a few

people to prove wrong.
"We're aware that it's
going to be that little bit
harder because everyone's

aware of us.

"But we've added 10
new players to the group new piayers to the group and hopefully they can bring something to us, while we've not lost many. We've just got to believe really, and have that consistency."

Lam is pleased with how his squad has been rejigged over the winter. While a host of new faces have arrived, a core of key players including John Asiata, Robbie Mulhern, Josh Charnley, Edwin Ipape and the coach's son Lachlan Lam have all been retained.

retained.
Among the new signings is former Penrith and Cronulla playmaker Matt Moylan, an Australia international, who looks set to play alongside Lam junior in the halves.
Lam senior said: "I think the new players that have come in are better players, o add to the souad and to

come in are better players, to add to the squad and to make us better.
"That's all really exciting. We've just got to make sure that we gel off the field. By doing that we get the trust on the field.
"I think that the goal will

get the trust on the field.
"I think that the goal will
be to finish higher than we
did last year, so that would
be in the top four.
"I think that's a realistic
goal but it's going to take
a lot of hard work. We're

a lot of hard work. We're a ware of that but we're a club that's on the up and we want to show that's what we're capable of." The Leopards begin their Super League campaign when they host Huddersfield on February

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM 1

BEN Stokes felt England were let down by technology at a crucial moment as they slipped to a series-levelling defeat against India but refused to blame the result on "if, buts

blame the result on "if, buts and maybes".

The tourists were bowled out for 292 on day four of the second Test in Visakhapatnam, going down by 106 runs as they fell well short of a history-making chase.

Opener Zak Crawley looked the man most likely to do something special and his dismissal for 73 just before lunch turned the game decisively in India's favour.

Kuldeep Yadav's lbw shout was initially turned down by experienced umpire Marais Erasmus, whojudged the ball to missing leg stump, but

the ball to missing leg stump, but DRS surprisingly ruled in the

By PAUL THOMAS

bowler's favour when ball-tracking suggested it was going on to hit.
England lost Jonny Bairstow in the next over and never quite recovered, with Stokes making it clear he felt Crawley was the victim of a Hawk Eye glitch.
"My personal opinion is that the technology has gone wrong on this occasion. That's where I stand on it," the England captain said when questioned about the decision.
"Technology in the game is obviously there and everyone has an understanding of the reasons it can

understanding of the reasons it can never be 100 per cent. That's why we have the 'umpire's call', that's why

"So when it's not 100 per cent, I don't think it's unfair for someone to say 'I think the technology has got it wrong'. I will say that, but in a game

full of ifs, buts and maybes I am not going to say that's the reason why we haven't got the result we wanted. "You can't really do much with things that have been and gone. You can't really overturn a decision that has been made."

Proud

England's score was the second highest fourth-innings total any overseas team have scored in Indian conditions, but the scale of their target was simply too great to overcome without a big century to build around

overcome without a big century to build around.

Ollie Pope, Ben Foakes and Tom Hartley were all battling against illness that emerged in the camp overnight, along with the injured Jack Leach at the team hotel, leaving Stokes proud of the fight his side put

up.
"There's a bit of a virus going round, a couple of guys woke up not

feeling great," he said. "It's not ideal, you want everyone to be feeling great but I'm proud that the guys who were feeling under the weather didn't shy away and gave it their best.

"We had full belief in ourselves that we could chase that down. Taking on challenges like that is what we are about. In moments like this, when you have scoreboard pressure, that is when we get the best out of ourselves as individuals. Unfortunately, this time we didn't get on the right side of the result."

A quick scan of their secondinnings boundary count - 42 fours and four sixes - tells the story of how England went about their business in a match that ended with four full sessions unused.

sessions unused.
It was the kind of aggressive display which has become par for the course under Stokes' leadership and even dismissals like Joe Root's for 16, an agricultural heave from the



side's most elegant player, do not give Stokes pause for thought.
"I think our approach is what we're known for, the way in which we play," he said.
"We want to stay very true to ourselves. I was happy with the way we went about that chase. That's exactly how we play cricket It won't always work but That's exactly how we play cricket. It won't always work but a loss is a loss; you don't get any points losing by five and you don't get less for losing by 100."

Praise

England will travel onwards to England will travel onwards to Abu Dhabi for a break on Wednesday, before returning to India for the third Test in Rajkot on February 15. India head coach Rahul Dravid

has praised England's 'Bazball' approach, even if the word itself leaves him cold. Dravid was

known as 'the Wall' during his known as the wall during his playing days, a nod to his watertight technique, but he has been impressed by the way the tourists have utilised their attacking methods on turning pitches

attacking methods on turning pitches.

"I think they're playing very well. Whether you call it 'Bazball' or whatever you want to call it, it's not." he said.

"Iknow it's just a term, and I'm not sure how happy they are about it, but they are playing really good cricket. It's not like wild slogging, they are actually showing some very good skills.

"Some of the shots they are playing require a lot of ability. You can't just come here and execute those things by saying 'I want to play attackingly'. I think there's more to it than just attacking cricket.

"I have seen at times they

"I have seen at times they

know when to pull back and they know when to attack. They're playing slightly differently, no doubt about it. They know how to find that balance and we know

to find that balance and we know we're up against a challenge that we're looking forward to."

Bumrah won a deserved player-of-the-match award for his match figures of nine for 91, including a game-defining spell of vicious reverse swing in the first innings.

The image of him sending two of Ollie Pope's stumps flying in opposite directions encapsulated his brilliance in a single frame.

opposite directions encapsulated his brilliance in a single frame. "As a youngster that was the first delivery I learned in tennishall cricket." Bumrah recalled. "I used to feel that was the only way to take wickets. I look to solve the problem, every wicket is different and I have to use what I have in my armoury." what I have in my armoury.'

IMPRESSED: Bumrah



GOOD START:

England will get back to their Roots

RUGBY UNION

ETHAN Roots believes his barnstorming England debut was given special meaning by his unorthodox route into professional rugby

Roots was named man of the match for a powerful display at blindside flanker in Saturday's 27-24 Guinness Six Nations victory over Italy, continuing a breakthrough season for the Exeter Chief.

Yet as a teenager he fell out of love with the game when his lack of size prevented him from

prevented him from making an impact and he turned to jiu-jitsu. Before long he had his only MMA fight – which ended in a draw – and was competing at jiu-jitsu, only to be expelled from his club for dating his coach's daughter. daughter.
Driven back to rugby, he

benefited from a growth spurt and, upon being presented with several contract offers, opted for the Crusaders in 2020 only to then be limited to a single appearance.

It drove the Maori All Black to seek his fortune in the UK and, having impressed at Osprevs, he joined Exeter last year, with his form soon alerting Steve Borthwick that England might have found their successor to Courtney Lawes.

"Playing rugby professionally again and enjoying it – I'm so glad that I stuck at it," the

26-year-old said.
"I had a bit of a rough
patch and came out of the



STALWART: Lawes



COACH: Borthwick

end of it. I was lucky when I came out the end of that rough patch to still be in a professional set-up and I fell back into it, I fell back in love.

"The last six or seven months have been pretty hard to process. Everything has happened everything has nappened really quickly and everything has gone really well for me. "A win in a tough place

like the Stadio Olimpico and coming away with man of the match is pretty special. So I'm pretty happy." Roots was greeted by

his mum Cara after the game in an unexpected visit and hopes she will be present for Saturday's round-two fixture against Wales, when he will face some of his former

Ospreys team-mates.
"My dad is back in
Auckland but my mum
flew out and surprised me - it was the first time I had seen her for quite a while," he said. "That was

pretty special.

"She arrived the night
before the game. I don't
know how she planned it all. Her and my partner landed at the same time. It was a nice surprise.

"It is a long trip but she is going to see my brother when she is in London and hopefully catch another game.
"I know a lot of those

boys in Wales and it would be great to have a hit-out against them. It is a big occasion and it would be my first Test at Twickenham, so I would be really excited about it."

- FOOTBALL: FA Cup. Aston Villa v Chelsea ITV1 2000; Africa Cup of Nations, First semi-final BBC Two England 1630, Sky Sports Premier League 1645, Sky Sports Main Event 1700. Sports Main Event 1700.
 Second semi-final — BBC Three 1930. Sky Sports Premier League 1945; cinch Premiership. Hibernian v Cettie — Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1900. DFB Pokal. Saarbrucken v Borussia Monchengladbach — Viaplay Sports 1 1945.
 CRICKET: First Test. New Zealand v South Africa — TNT Sports 1 2130.
 TENNIS: The Mubadala Abu
- TENNIS: The Mubadala Abu Dhabi Open — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports
- Main Event anu Jry Gydda. Arena 0900. BASKETBALL: NBA, Philadelphia 76ers v Golden State Warriors TNT Sports 2 0030 (Thu): EuroCup, London Lions v Wolves Vilnius TNT Sports 1 1915.

- THURSDAY

 DARTS: Premier League,
 Berlin Sky Sports Main
 Event and Sky Sports Arena
 1900.
- Event and Sky Sports Arena 1900. 60LF: DP World Tour. The Commercial Bank Qatar Masters Sky Sports Golf 0900: Ladies European Tour. The Magical Kenya Ladies Open Sky Sports Golf 1400: P6A Tour. The WM Phoenix Open Sky Sports Golf 1500. Sky Sports Main Event 2230. TENNIS: The Mubadala Abu Dhabi Open Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Arena 0900: Open 13 Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Arena 1700. Sky Sports Main Event and Sky

- BOXING: WBO World Super-Lightweight title bout. Teofimo Lopez v Jamaine Ortiz Sky Sports Main Event 0130 (Fri). BASKETBALL: NBA, New York Knicks v Dallas Mavericks TNT Sports 1 0030 (Fri). Los Angeles Lakers v Denver Nuggets TNT Sports 1 0300 (Fri).

FRIDAY

- FRIDAY
 FOOTBALL: Championship.
 FOOTBALL: Championship.
 Sheffield Wednesday v
 Birmingham Sky Sports
 Football and Sky Sports Main
 Event 1930: Scottish Cup.
 Morton v Motherwell BBC
 Scotland 1930: Ligue 1.
 Marseille v Metz TNT
 Sports 1 1945: Serie A.
 Salernitana v Empoli TNT
 Sports 2 1945: Laliga, Cadiz
 v Real Betis Viaplay Sports
 1 and Laliga TV 2000.
 FRICKET: First T20. Australia
 v West Indies TNT Sports 1
 BB00. First one-day
 international, Sri Lanka v
 Metal Applications 1 (1)
 Sports 2 (1)
 Sports
- . U845.

 60LF. DP World Tour, The Commercial Bank Oatar Masters Sky Sports Golf 0900; Ladies European Tour, The Magical Kenya Ladies Open Sky Sports Golf 1400. P6A Tour, The WM Phoenix Open Sky Sports Main Event 2230.

 FIENNIS: The Mubadala Abu Dhabi Open Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Arena 1700.

 CYCLING: Women's UAE Tour Eurosport 2 1050.

 BASKETBALL: NBA, Los Angeles Laker's v New Orleans Pelicans TNT Sports 1 0330 (Sat). GOLF: DP World Tour. The

Sports 1 03:0 (Sat).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL: Premier League,
Manchester City v Everton —
TNT Sports 1 1 100.

Nottingham Forest v
Newcastle — Sky Sports
Main Event and Sky Sports
Premier League 1700;
Championship, Ipswich v
West Brom — Sky Sports Main Event Sky Sports
Eventhall and Sky Sports Main Event Main E Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1200; Scottish Cup, Rangers v Ayr — Viaplay Sports 1 1730; National League, Woking v Hartlepool

- TNT Sports 2 1700; Serie A, Roma v Inter Mitan TNT Sports 1 1715, Sassudo v Torino TNT Sports 1 1945; Ligue 1. Paris St Germain v Lille TNT Sports 2 1945; LaLiga, Alaves v Villarreal Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1300. Real Madrid v Girona ITV4 1700. Viaplay Sports 2 and LaLiga TV 1730. Las Palmas v Valencia Viaplay Sports 2 and LaLiga TV 1730. Las Palmas v Valencia Viaplay Sports 2 and LaLiga Viaplay Sports 2 and LaLiga TV 2000; Bundesliga, Bayer Leverkusen v Bayern Munich — Sky Sports Football 1730. • RUGBY UNION: Six Nations, Seetland v France BPC
- RUGBY UNION. Six Nations. Scotland v France BBC One 1315. England v Wales-ITV and S4C 1600.
 GOLF: DP World Tour. The Commercial Bank Qatar Masters Sky Sports Golf and Sky Sports Main Event 0930. Ladies European Tour. The Magical Kenya Ladies Open Sky Sports Golf 1400. P6A Tour. The WM Pheenix Open Sky Sports Folf 1400. P6A Tour. The WM Pheenix Open Sky Sports Phoenix Open — Sky Sports Golf 1530, Sky Sports Main
- Golf 1530, Sky Sports Main Event 2030.

 HORSE RACING: Newbury— ITV regions 1305, STV 1315.

 **TENNIS: The Muhadala Abu Dhabi Open Sky Sports Arena 1300: Open 13 Sky Sports Arena 1300: Dallas Open Sky Sports Arena 1300. Sky Sports Main Event 2300.
- 2300.

 CYCLING: Women's UAE Tour

 Eurosport 2 1050; Tour of

 Murcia Eurosport 2 1300,

 Figueira Champions Classic

 Eurosport 2 1500.

murcia — Eurosport Z 1300,
Figueira Champions Classic
— Eurosport 2 1500.

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL: Premier League,
West Ham v Arsenal — Sky
Sports Premier League 1300,
Sky Sports Main Event 1400,
Aston Villa v Manchester
United — Sky Sports Main
Event and Sky Sports
Premier League 1600,
Women's FA Cup, Arsenal v
Manchester City — BBC Two
England 1215;
Championship, Coventry v
Millwall — Sky Sports Main
Event 1130; Scottish Cup, St
Mirren v Celtic — Viaplay
Sports 1 1100, Adrier v
Hearts — BBC One Scotland
1700; Serie A. Fiorentina v
Frosinone — TNT Sports 2
1130, Bolognav Lecce — TNT
Sports 1 1400, Mornza v
Heltas Verona — TNT Sports 1
1400, Mornza v
Heltas Verona — TNT Sports 1
1700, AC Milan v
Napoli — TNT Sports 1 1790;
Ligue 1, Le Havre v Rennes
— TNT Sports 1 1700, Lorient
v Reims — TNT Sports 1 1700, Lorient
v Reims — TNT Sports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Sports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Sports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Sports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Fports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Fports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lyon —
TNT Sports 3 1400, Montpellier v Lorier v Reims — TNT Sports 1 1700, Lorier v Reims — TNT Sports Y 1300. Real Maltorca v
Rayo Vallecano – Vaplay
Sports 2 and LaLiga TV 1515.
Sevilla v Attetico Madrid –
Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga
TV 1730. Barcelona v
Granda – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga
TV 1730. Barcelona v
Bundesilga. Stuttgart v Mainz
– Sky Sports Football 1430.
Hoffenheim v Cologne – Sky
Sports Football 1430.
RUGBY UNION. Six Nations,
Ireland v Italy – ITV 1415.
GRIDIRON. Super Bowl LVIII.
San Francisco 49ers v
Kansas City Chiefs – Sky
Sports Main Event and Sky

Sports Main Event and Sky Sports NFL 2200, ITV 2245. • CRICKET: Second T20,

Australia v West Indies — TNT Sports 1 0800; Second one-day international, Sri Lanka v Afghanistan — TNT Sports 4 0845.

- 0845.
 GOLF: DP World Tour, The
 Commercial Bank Qatar
 Masters Sky Sports Golf
 0830: PGA Tour, The WM
 Phoenix Open Sky Sports
 Golf 1530.
- BASKETBALL: NBA, Miami
- BASKE IBALL: NBA, Miami Heat v Boston Celtics TNT Sports 2 1900.
 CYCLING: Women's UAE Tour Eurosport 2 1050; Clasica de Almeria Eurosport 2 1500.

ALL THE TOP TIPS FOR TODAY'S RACING



By MIKE FRANCIS

LESSAY let favouritebackers down Kempton last month but can recoup those losses when returning for the **Unibet Supports Safe** Gambling Novice Stakes.

Andrew Balding's charge looked all set to make it two from two when kicking on from the front just after entering the home straight but then showed a few signs of

snowed a few signs of greenness.

Having jinked at the cutaway, the Churchill colt was asked to quicken up again between the final two furlongs and appeared to take control of proceedings.

Boost

However, he continued to wander about a bit and that left him vulnerable to the late surge of Newsreader when the petrol tank emptied in the closing stages. Lessay is now 5lb better off with that rival, who had been over eight lengths hack in

with that rival, who had been over eight lengths back in seventh when Baldings Churchill colt impressed on his successful racecourse debut, again over this course and distance.

That form received a boost when runner in Rascal

when runner-up Rascal Recknell landed the odds at ingfield recently and essay looks worth another nance, especially after Lingfield chance,



Charlie Appleoy, compacting a hat-trick of wins in the Godolphin colours just over two years ago.

After being bought for 60,000 guineas in October 2022, he spent time on the sidelines but returned from a 518-day lay-off with an encouraging fourth placed effort at Newcastle in the summer.

summer.
There have been more niggling training setbacks since, but placed efforts here in November and at Newcastle on New Year's Day suggest all is well at

last.
The Gosforth Park second The Gosforth Park second to Dear My Friend looks particularly strong form after the winner followed up in fine style at Lingfield in the Listed-class Tandridge Stakes on Sunday.

Over the jumps at Ludlow, Palio is given another chance in the Racing To School Juvenile Hurdle after being given time to recover from being pulled up in heavy ground at Aintree last time. Alan King's gelding had previously chased home Burdett Road at Huntingdon on his encouraging National

on his encouraging National Hunt debut and also had some decent Flat form.

Bonttay was all the rage for a valuable mares' handicap at Cheltenham in mid-December and was still

travelling well when parting company with Paddy company with Brennan two out. Fergal O'Brien

Fergal O'Brien clearly thinks a lot of the seven-year-old, who registered six wins and three seconds in

wins and three seconds in her first nine races, so she is worth sticking with in the Watch On RacingTV Mares' Handicap Hurdle.

All eyes will be on royal runner Reach For The Moon when he goes over obstacles for the first time in the Betting. Bet New Betting Sites Maiden Hurdle at Sedgefield.

The five-year-old was once rated a potential Derby contender when claiming a Group Three juvenile success for John and Thady Gosden and holds a Supreme entry

and holds a Supreme entry at the Cheltenham Festival.

at the Cheltenham Festival.
Townhill relished a step up
to three miles when scoring
gamely at Doncaster and
another three furlongs in the
Betting.Bet Free Members
Club Handicap Hurdle will
be no problem.

FAIRYHOUSE: 1.30 Soldaro, 2.00 Evies Vladimir, 2.30 Corbetts Cross, 3.00 Lark In The Mornin, 3.30 Mordor, 4.00 Iris Emery,

The Mornin, 3.30 Mordor, 4.00 Iris Emery, 4.30 Mighty Jeremy, KEMPTON: 5.30 Himawari, 6.00 LESSAY (NAP), 6.30 Neapolitan, 7.00 Symbol Of Light, 7.30 Egopoiste, 8.00 Katan, 8.30 Capstan, LUDLOW: 1.50 Palio, 2.20 South Omo Zone, 2.50 Can You Call, 3.20 Bontlay, 3.50 Chance A Tune, 4.20 Tea Clipper, 4.50 Looking As You Are. SEDGEFIELD: 1.40 Arlo, 2.10 Reach For The Moon, 2.40 You Say Nothing, 3.10 On Cloud Nine, 3.40 Big Bee Hive, 4.10 Just Call Me At. 4.40 Townhill.



LUKE Littler is ready to "kick on" in the Premier League after taking the darts world by storm.

The teenage sensation has enjoyed a whirlwind few weeks since his remarkable, headlinegrabbing run to the final of the World Championship

last month.

Littler followed up his
Alexandra Palace heroics by winning the Bahrain Masters and reaching the final of the and reaching the Dutch Masters.

and reaching the final of the Dutch Masters.

The Warrington-based youngster now wants to make his mark in the Premier League, having reached the semi-finals on his debut in Cardiff last week.

His next opportunity comes in Berlin on Thursday.

'I am just happy with how I have been playing," Littler, who also turned 17 last month, said.

"The Worlds was a big step up but I have proved I can play with the best and that is why I have got my shot in the Premier League.
"It was good to win n my

"It was good to win on my debut and obviously be the youngest person to hit a nine-darter as well. But

DARTS By NOBBY GEORGE

overall it was just practice for the Premier League, as was Holland. Now we are kicking on with the Premier League. I know I have got the ability to beat the best."

Littler has so far taken his sudden fame in his stride.

The player nicknamed 'The Nuke' was a relative unknown in December but his performances at such a

his performances at such a young age have earned him recognition beyond darts.

Interest

He said: "It's just been crazy but I've just been living how I have been doing - chilling when I have time off

but when I nave time off but when I'm at my darts events, being fully focused. "That's what I have always done. I have always been myself and keep myself to myself."

myself."

Littler admits he has mixed feelings about all the attention, particularly the media interest in his life on and off the oche.

Asked if he has enjoyed being interviewed so often

being interviewed so often, he said: "I have and I haven't. It does get very boring!" Meanwhile, New Masters



champion Stephen Bunting has opened up on his battles with mental health and revealed how a hypnotist has helped turn his career helped

around.

The 38-year-old won his first televised PDC major when he outclassed Michael when he outclassed Michael van Gerwen in the final in Milton Keynes just a few years after nearly walking away from the game.

Bunting, who is a former BDO world champion, made the switch to the PDC circuit

a decade ago and threatened to make waves before he hit

a dip that left him depressed. The Liverpudlian said he felt like a laughing stock and turned to a hypnotist and sports psychologist to get over his demons.
"I was ready for walking away," he said. "It was awful, a walking away," and the said of the sai

I was walking into events and I felt like everyone was

and I lett hike everyone was laughing at me.
"I felt like no matter what I was doing everything was going wrong. I was taking it out on my family and locking

out on my family and locking myself away. "I was depressed, it was an awful place to be. Thankfully the psychologist and hypnotist have helped.

Нарру

"I was against it at first but I thought I needed to do something and that was probably the last step that I could take and I went.
"He taught me how to think not just about darts, there's other things than darts, family, home life.
"I know they say in Peter Pan you think about happy stuff and you can fly but it is the same sort of logic in darts. If you turn up and are feeling happy and good then you can win anything.
"The hypnotist helped me

with my sleep. That's the biggest thing for me, a one-hour session with a hypnotist is a four-hour REM state so it helps you to focus, it helps you look at all the positives

it helps you to focus, it helps you look at all the positives and stop looking at negatives. "Your mind is 95 per cent negative so sometimes every one of us will be in the negative side of the brain without even knowing it. "I don't think there are many players who have dipped into that side so to have that extra one or two per cent that helps. As you can see I am a champion now, so I'm just happy."

Bunting, who channelled his inner Lionel Messi by sleeping alongside his trophy on Sunday night, has been waiting a long time to get his hands on some silverware.

But he said he would consider giving it back if it meant Jurgen Klopp stayed at his beloved Liverpool. "I might give my trophy," he quipped.

"I actually felt like I lost a family member. I was away in Ireland when I heard the news and I was absolutely devastated. I don't think there is a manager in the world that could take his place."

1. Which Formula One Grand Prix takes place at the Yas Marina

2. Who did Aryna Sabalenka beat in the final of the 2024 Australian Open?
3. Which team has conceded the most goals

in the English Football League (EFL) so far this season?
4. England bowler James

Anderson's five wickets in the second Test against India moved him to how many Test career wickets?

5. Which two teams will

contest the Super Bowl this weekend?
6. Which two NBA teams

play their home games at the Crypto.com Arena? 7. Which country has won the most Paralympic gold medals?
8. Chelsea have lost just once in the Women's Super League this season, who was it against?

9. Which city hosted the

9. Which city nosted the first ever modern Olympics in 1896?
10. Which player won his first ever PDC televised title with victory in the Cazoo Darts Masters was the weeken? over the weekend? 11. Against which team

did Jordan Henderson make his debut for 12. Who became Wales' second-youngest captain when

leading his country in Saturday's opening 27-26 Six Nations defeat by Scotland? 13. Name the last driver to win a Formula One world title for

14. Who is the current number two in the British women's tennis rankings behind Katie Boulter? 15. Ross Barkley

Ferrari.

signed for Luton last summer as a free agent after leaving which club?

16. Who is the highest ranking British golfer in the current LPGA

rankings?
17. Chelsea last month signed Colombia striker Mayra Ramirez for a British record fee from which club? 18. In which city are

NBA franchise the Hawks based? 19. Who was the last boxer to have been the undisputed world

heavyweight champion? 20. Women's cricketer of the year Nat Sciver-Brunt plays for which franchise in The Hundred?

MNSWERS: 1. Abu Dhabi Grand Phix; 2. Qlinwen Grand Phis; 3. Suffor (59 goals); 4. 695; 5. Kansas City Chiefs and San Prancisco 49ers; 6. Los Angeles Lakers and Eindhover; 1. Los Burnage; 1.5. Holis; 1.5. Los Burnage; 1.5. Holis Burnage; 1.5. Holis; 1.5. Los Mandel Phill; 1.7. Levante; 1.8. Mill; 1.8. 1.8. Mil

- 1895: Baseball great George Herman 'Babe' Ruth was born. The New York Yankees hero began his career as a pitcher but went on to become arguably his sport's greatest hitter. He helped establish the Yankees as one of the top teams of the 1920s and 30s. He scored 2,174 runs and hit 714 home runs. Ruth died in 1948.
- 1924: Former England football captain Billy Wright was born. The Wolves great became the first man to win 100 England caps and captained his country a then-record 90 times. He died in
- 1958: A plane carrying Manchester United players crashed at Munich airport as the team travelled back from a match against Red Star Belgrade. A total of 23 people died as a result of the accident, including
- eight United players. 2001: Hull were locked out of their Boothferry Park ground after bailiffs, under landlord
- David Lloyd's orders, changed the locks. 2002: New Zealander Graham Henry stood down as coach of the Wales rugby union team.
- 2004: Former England boss Sir Clive Woodward was named as the British and Irish Lions head coach for their 2005 tour of New Zealand.
- 2007: Liverpool announced to the Stock Exchange they had agreed the terms of "a recommended cash offer" to be made by an American consortium led by George Gillett and Tom Hicks to buy the club.
- 2008: Goals from Shaun Wright-Phillips and Jermaine Jenas ensured Fabio Capello's reign as England manager got off to a successful start with a 2-1 win over Switzerland at Wembley. 2016: England
- launched the Eddie Jones era by emerging from a tricky RBS 6 Nations opener against Scotland at Murrayfield with a 15-9 victory.
- 2017: Alastair Cook stepped down as England captain after 59 Tests in charge.
- 2018: First-half braces from Tammy Abraham and Nathan Dver helped Swansea record their biggestever FA Cup win as Notts County were demolished 8-1 at the
- Liberty Stadium. 2021: Joe Root scored a double century on his 100th Test appearance for England en route to 218 on day two of the first match against India in Chennai. 2023: Leeds sacked
- head coach Jesse Marsch with the club 17th in the Premier League.

THE NATIVES ARE GETTING REST

MAURICIO Pochettino called for support from fans after Chelsea were booed off at the end of Sunday's 4-2 defeat to Wolves.

The Argentinian, who apologised for the manner in which his team capitulated after taking the lead in the first half at Stamford Bridge, said his young side need backing if they are to turn around what until now has

been another woeful Premier League season.

The Blues are 11th after losing to Gary O'Neil's side, with 10 defeats from their 23 league games.

from their 23 league games.

Supporters responded by singing the name of former owner Roman Abramovich, and jeered Pochettino and his team off the field at half-time and again at the final whistle.

By PAUL THOMAS

Matheus Cunha's hat-trick had Matheus Cunna's nat-trick had earned Wolves their first win at Chelsea since 1979 and was well deserved, with the visitors the more

deserved, with the visitors the more inventive and clinical in possession while Pochettino's side suffered from a familiar lack of creativity.

Yet it was a perceived absence of fight that most angered supporters.

"We apologise to the fans," said Pochettino. "The perception is one thing, another is the reality. The perception is Chelsea should be in a different position, but for different circumstances we are not there. Maybe because we are not good enough. But what can we do?

"The most important thing now is

"The most important thing now is to feel the responsibility. We need to accept that is the organisation and of course the players that we have. "To understand the fans is really

important. We want to apologise and "We are disappointed like them, but until the end we need to fight all

"If we want good results in the future, we need to stay together.
During 90 minutes, we need to try to

buring 90 minutes, we need to try to work together. "With the capacity, the fans will be right to criticise and be angry if the performance is not good. But it's important (to remember) the players are young. They need support."

Recover

Much of the fury was directed at Pochettino personally, the first clear sign of his tenure that backing for the manager is under strain.

"During the moment, it's not nice," he said. "But I think we have to move on. You need to convince the players, push them to never give up and be brave and to recover. It's the leader that needs to be there, to have the composure to push them.
"We can talk, but we are in the

dugout. The players need to feel the confidence, to feel fresh to compete again.

"They feel the pressure and they "They feel the pressure and they need the help from the fans during 90 minutes. It's not to demand nothing. But it's easy to be outside watching. When the stress arrives, sometimes it's not easy. We need to be behind them."

The Wolves defeat was Pochettino's 31st game in charge, the same number Graham Potter was given before he was sacked last season.

before he was sacked last season, and here *Midweek Sport* looks at the Argentinian's record with the club.

SLOW PROGRESS

Potter was sacked after just over six months in charge and a record reading won 12, drew eight, lost 11 in all competitions. Pochettino is two





wins better off, showing at least some progress, but with the same number of losses.

some progress, but with the same number of losses.

With the £1billion of transfer expenditure since the club were taken over by Todd Boehly's Clearlake consortium, Chelsea could reasonably have expected toturnthe ship around somewhat quicker — though Pochettino does at least have an upcoming Carabao Cup final to point to as the club chase a first trophy since 2021.

The comparison to their previous 31 games immediately before his appointment is more favourable to Pochettino, owing to a feeble finish to last season underthecaretakermanagement of Frank Lampard.

Lampard's spell began with another defeat to Wolves as he won only one and lost eight of 11 games. Throw in a draw with

Saltor and the final 19 games of Potter's reign – won five, drew five, lost nine – and Chelsea's record in that stretch consists of just six wins, eight draws and 17

Pochettino has also improved their goalscoring record, with 54 goals in his time in charge for an average of 1.74 per game. Potter's teams scored just 33, barely a goal a game. At the other end of the pitch, though, things have been more problematic...

FEEL THE FOURS
The Wolves game followed immediately on from a 4-1 defeat by Liverpool last Wednesday.
That is the second time under Pochettino that they have

Pochettino that they have conceded four in back-to-back games, having done so in November against Manchester

City – albeit in a 4-4 draw – and

Newcastle. That means they have suffered Inat means they have suffered twice in the last 17 games, the most recent example coming in the old First Division in December 1989 when they lost 5-2 to Wimbledon, 4-2 to QPR and 5-2 to Liverpool in successive

and 3-210 Liverpoor massections games.

The last week's double setback has left Pochettino's defence with a record of 43 goals conceded in 31 games, 1.39 per game, compared to exactly a goal a game under Potter.

Matheus Cunha also became only the fourth visiting player to score a Premier League hat-trick at Stamford Bridge, following former Arsenal forwards

Framiora Bridge, following former Arsenal forwards Nwankwo Kanu in 1999 and Robin van Persie in 2011 and Man City's Sergio Aguero in 2016.



SACKED FOR LESS: Graham Potter



Forest boss Nuno fears Cup shock

NUNO Espirito Santo refused to look beyond Nottingham Forest's FA Cup fourth-round replay against Bristol City with a bumper home tie against Manchester United

awaiting the winners.
Forest were held 0-0 at
Ashton Gate and Nuno is taking nothing for granted in a competition he holds in high regard.

When asked about the fans' excitement at the prospect of facing United, Nuno said: "Now we are

Nuno said: "Now we are focused on Bristol and it means a lot to us.

"Since the beginning I always considered the FA Cup a fantastic chance to fight for a trophy. This is

what is in our minds.

"It's the second leg of a competition we want to go through and we're going to face a difficult team, who in the first leg were tough. But we're going to try and solve it."

Forest's progress has been slow in nine games under Nuno, who replaced Steve Cooper in December, due to a spate of injuries and players on duty at the Africa Cup of Nations.

Rvan Yates and Nicolas Dominguez will both miss the City replay through suspension, Chris Wood (hamstring) and Divock Origi (unspecified) remain sidelined and Callum Hudson-Odoi is a doubt.

Ola Aina, Willy Boly and Ibrahim Sangare are all still on Africa Cup of Nations duty, although Senegal pair Moussa Niakhate and Cheikhou



CROCKED: Chris Wood

Kouvate are back with the

squad.
Forest sit two points above the relegation zone, after taking seven points from Nuno's seven league games in charge.

But the Portuguese added: "There's a lot of positives. We are scoring goals, we are playing good spells of football.

"The idea is to sustain the good moments throughout the games, but at the same time there are some negatives also that we have to address.

"We are starting the games slowly. In the last game (1-1 at Bournemouth on Sunday) the first few minutes were not good, so we have to have strong and fast starts to the

game.
"There are some issues at set-pieces as well. It's very far from what we want because perfection is very difficult to achieve.

"So if you want to reach those high standards we

LIS A BIG UNITED MISS

MANCHESTER United defender Lisandro

MANCHESTER United defender Lisandro Martinez is facing at least eight weeks out with ligament damage in his right knee.

The Argentina defender was forced off in United's 3-0 win over West Ham at Old Trafford on Sunday, just his fourth appearance following four months out following a of a foot issue.

Martinez was surrounded by team-mates in the second half after going down clutching his knee, having been landed on awkwardly by West Ham full-back Vladimir Coufal.

After the match Erik ten Hag admitted the injury "doesn't look good" and described it as a "personal disaster" for Martinez given how much time the 26-year-old had already missed this season.

ON SALE WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY MIDWEEK February 7, 2024 £1.70

(on sale Wed Feb 7 & Thur Feb8)

NEW Aberdeen manager Neil Warnock vowed to have a "little bit of fun" and targeted cup glory after achieving a life's ambition of working in Scotland.

The 75-year-old revealed he had rejected more lucrative offers but seized the opportunity to move to the Premiership until the end of the season.

"It's been a long time," he said. "I have always wanted to manage up here. I've got a place at Dunoon and my club's Greenock Morton. I've got bricks there with the family name on.

"Let's have a little bit of fun between now and the end of the season. I like to put smiles on faces.
"I applied for the job once many years ago and I never even got a reply. I felt let down at the time and I used that a little bit to motivate myself – I'll show them what they're missing. I managed to get promotion the following year."

BACK: Warnock



